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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

A Contract of Marriage
between
Wit and Wisdom

Written, c. 1579
[*B.M. Add. MSS.* 26,782]
Reproduced in Facsimile, 1909

The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

A Contract of Marriage

between

Wit and Wisdom

[c. 1579]

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LONDON, W.C.: AND EDINBURGH

MCMIX

GENERAL

A Contract of Marriage

between

Wit and Wisdom

This play exists in manuscript only. The original is national property, and is press-marked in the British Museum Catalogue Add. MSS. 26,782.

The probable date of the play is c. 1579. *The MS. is a small quarto volume, containing thirty-two leaves, measuring* $7\frac{7}{8}$ *by* 6 *inches.*

For other points of interest the student may consult the "Shakespeare Society's" reprint of the play, as also that published more recently by "The Early English Drama Society."

Mr. J. A. Herbert (Manuscript Department, British Museum), after comparing this facsimile with the original, says, "The reproduction is quite excellent. There are two or three places only where the readings are a little plainer in the MS.; more often it is the other way about. The 'v. 27' at top of title-page is in red; the marks next '[im]printed' on same page are in different ink, later; the 'e' of 'knowe' (fol. 20 *verso, last line but one) is partly lost, but still legible; and fol.* 25 *recto, the ink showing through from the other side, is rather too dark in places, especially in the words 'list,' 'honour,' 'halfepeny.'"*

JOHN S. FARMER.

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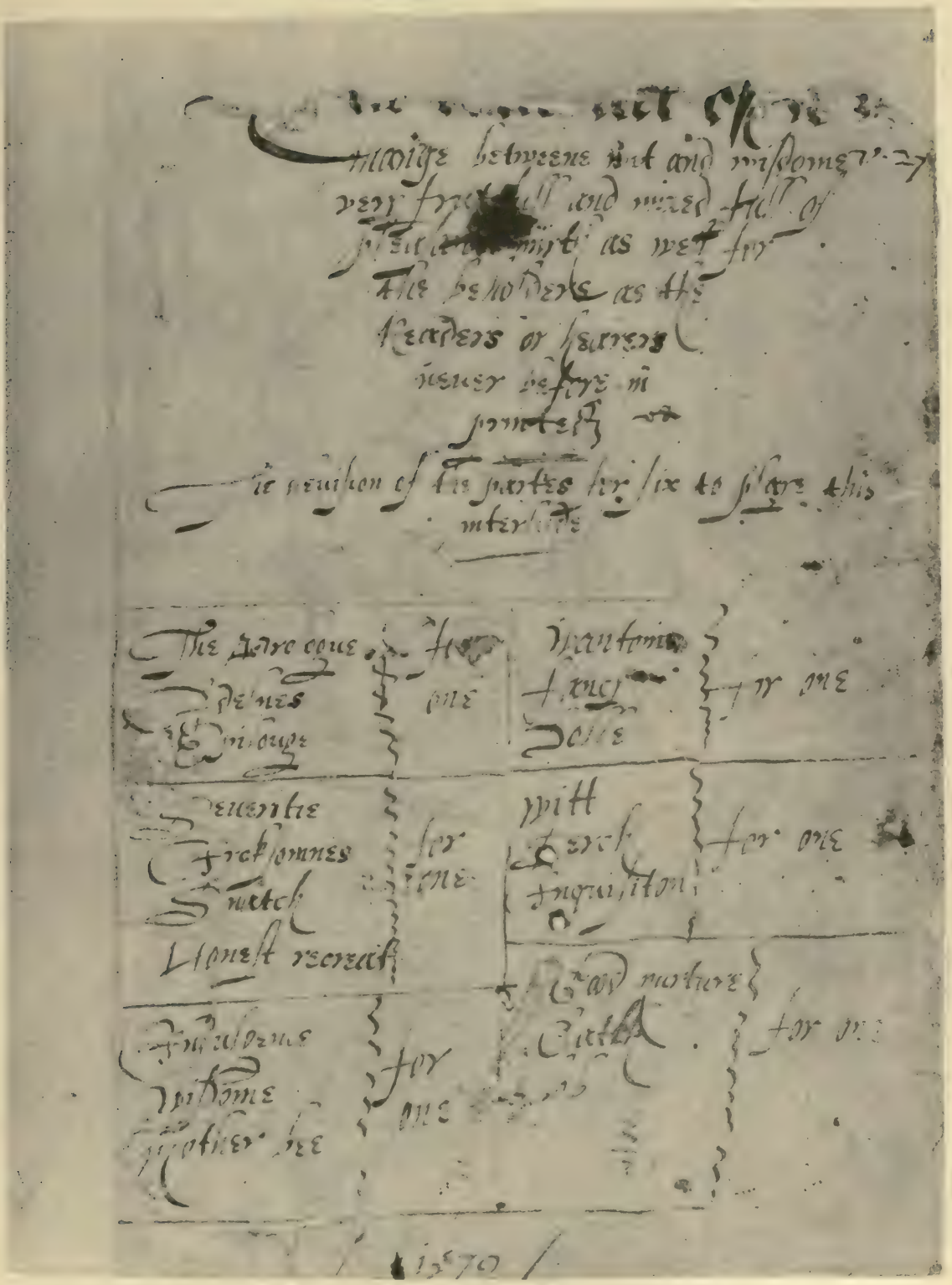

The marriage of wit and wisdome

The Prologue

That must conforme wholesome with
and bring it in good plight
the reason the requisit knowe
for to bring me thanke
and to the artist must giue glorie
to sett it forth at large

The first Scene Exit/

Enter Generitie and his wife
Indulgence & there
sonne wit/

Generitie Oh my sonne drawe neare to me
and marke the rare right
for my last the to this glasse
Lett all thy wyles delight
be still in seeing good aright
a trading merchant trade
Labour learning for to gett
whilste thou hast time & space
for who hath brought the on the wa
the thing forto attaine
my sonne if thou right hap to hit
misfortune vnto the yeilde
thou knowest for variable chance
thy learning is to me
thou knowest all the care & take
for to provide for the
& now sithe that thou age drawe
to matche riper state
my purpose is bend full intent

to find for the amuse
wth whome thou mayest dispend the
of this thy life to come
& stays ab^t thy father hand
wth this thy mother hand

Indulgence | for good god husband that word good
nor hand no more but he
my heart my thinke would be at rest
him matched for to see
but yet my dears incrite
be headfull for yo^r false life
that he be able for to find
that yo^u will take to wife /

Deuerilis | walk ab for that shall serue
for why I know the most
that he whome he doe moane is wth
this doth expell
wherefore send wth marke well my
hand wisdome is the might
whome you shall labour to espouse
wth all yo^r mind & might
& if that he will be yo^r wife
looke what he doth behind
you shall possesse it full & whole
according unto kind
but if you find some worser event
& thes to mind by note
I premise the before these fickle
thoughts torment me wrote

Witt / dowre father for yᵗ grave adwise
might humble thaimes ꝑ find
Entending to obay yᵗ rygrge
ꝑ long as ꝑ shall lyue
yow ꝑ tyrst witt wite wysdome my
be chefe hed fast in lyue
tyem witt grace thrist him selfe
of god tyat sitz above

Indulgence ꝯ most said god witt w hold thy tyne
ꝑ tell thy thib lorde
indulgence wyen thay maried art
but ꝯ bittur yoube in store

Seuerite ꝯ dure pampering mothers dot more harme
tyen ede thay can dod good

Indulgence ꝯ ꝑ you hird folt thy yaine me feel
you tyen wold reuenge yᵗ mad

Seuerite ꝯ you shome tyat you tye mothr are
of thib tye outward mun
e not of mine for if you were
you wod be wrfull tyen
to grind him tow sorr yow to
him selfe for to aspire
to wisdomob fraud ꝑ yᵗ yᵗ cond
tye wᵗ ede dod desire ꝯ

Judicium

Riab good sir wch harten wit
what robustk & raw grud
when at thou commest to wisdomb thou
thou mayest then it apprend
take heed that thou dist not
& ye straiget bolt vprightt
cast a regardfull looke on her
smiling at the first sight
& when thou commest to talke w her
for gett not for to praise
her hous her kin & all her temp
& stick be glad to please
be diligent to doo for her
be pleasant in her sight
fly ab fye sayeth all thought that
doo say the trouth ib wch
& if ye hand aught to ought
although it cost mee gould
pounde ib for her & then mayest be
more merrie & more bolde

Scientie ¶ Oft se what counsell you gyue
you seme yo natures to haue
this counsell liketh wit wyll
& make him able to fynde
but sirra is yon cast to tegue
matte most what y shall say
that wisdome may betyme yo wise
this is the redy ways
applie yo bookes & still bemaid
of holenesse y say
for he morning hurty bird
to wetted many a day
be ware of irke sorinds y say
wt is amonster folk
& ware to lady wisdomes lore
Duty alwayes ose to dwell
for he will hate vsclingat yo
& so will holenesse hide
therefore beware of these to
& god will sure you blesse

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Wit & dutie doth require in me
& thank you humbly
for thos so ffatherly precepts
& purpos earnestly
for to observe that you comand
& those my foot to watche
least thay perhaps see & heare
me in those sacred seuld rathe

Indulgence & I wold yet before thy goost God leave
my blessing in a token
wold serve thy mother at a neede
stand to thy tarkling yout

wit & Mother & teache you hartily
& your father likewise
& bote yo blessinge leave & reame
in tent my enterprise

bothe & God bless the wit our hand
& stand the good successe

wit & & teache you bote & pray to god
to stand to you no lesse

Exeunt Heuerithie & Indulgence

Exit

God grant this my purpose may
prove vnto good effect
well now I must be bound this yeere
I must it not forgett } Exit

the
The Second Scene } Enter Idleness Bice

Blessed be
O Jesus my mistris how sure you fat this
what I was all this tempest are come to be a play
what has lost the gentlefellow since the next
I saw him before
here is a gasing I am the best man in
the company when there is no eye
at for my properties I am sure you
know them of old
I can fate well I speake & worke
well I am a rude
I am allwayes troubled with the litigarlus
I wish I to liger
I am so lasy the muse growes on
mine thinke on the top of my finger
But if you list to know my name
I will I am to well known to
and more
my mind is I blend the flower

of the fryning pan
my mother had iij holes at one sitter
bute some in lent
so we ward bute put into a Mustabote
& rame saling in a shoe yeard ondr sea
into kent
my brother ensuing & take the dore
being disposed to mute mery
we gott wb bote & came to Harlond here
but what ib wont to the purpose
perhaps you wold know
and we cand but alittell & it will
you please
my name ib Adelmes ab & tould you before
my mother hymsellfe sent me bet you
& pray the seize what more
marry my master he sent me the
tenn dore ait waite for to goley
& to loade with wodwritch / but out
of the ways
he / tould mark a marriage mr williams
in all hast ab tway talke

but stay tyrrel awhile ist for mater sweet
I must bethink to bring him out of his
braine bodie on tyis fashion
I will turne my mind from secret
to honest recreation
and then I will bring him to his wisht
wonted mirth
and affinity then he is in for a bond get
out how he can
but, yet my masters why is mirth in
open tyde down & quill out tyd quine

---

pantones entreth and sayeth

---

what dol I stay upon tyd dore who
is in tyd streate
what in I dreamd lay a straw under
yo feete
I pray you and one more aske you
what wind brought you hether

Ephemes

A bittell wind I warrant you from

Enter Kurtz tyr

Wantomes

what it ib not so will he come indeede

Fidelues

Nay iss it shy tyr word tyou mayst beleue
ab tyy saied
but when he comeb you must be curtious
& tell your
and you shall find him ab gentell ab ere
fantasm
euery scalab shallowed
what end tynke you are my bigld

Wantomes

Nay any belly doty shall my tasting
ob eggts

Fidelues

Nay by & dund I am afraid ib ib a
trinpany ob two loggers
I way get tye ūn Exit

Enter Wit

Why fatyer he hath eyerayed me
tyr tying to take in hund
my beamed to me to be so hurd
it cannot walk be stand
for I hund tayld in my boob
where ninstand my ib crayfsh

But he is so hard to find that I am nothing
I would I had him set to shower
or to send other towards
& then I might send learned find
& better first hand made
but now I send I shrewd & shrewd in mind
my labour Earle are find
& nothing in my study still
my youthfull years I spend
would god that I might Eny to sit
upon some good resort
Some selected christine sorte find
& so some better sorte

Edenes

Harry no better I am even as fitt
for that purpose as anyone for a sight
and you will be lusty my Lux amongst
friends I am the worse

Will

What good fellow art thou what is
thy name

Edenes

Faith I am Ipse so even the
same some
amen is good detination in mind
and thus

I was never trained but only
fooling out of my motyers plumtree

Wit

Thou art a more follower & wiser
& if thou hadst thy wisdom warme

Ctdenes

For faith I have a motyer wit
but I think no Evening

Wit

I pray thee what is thy name
to and it derive

Ctdenes

why I am no augur of my name
for that I will not swear
Eye by the mass I could have told
you ever now
what a sport towards William am I
I am as wise as my motyers sow
I pray you sir what is your name
cannot you tell
is there any hedge that knows where
my godfatyer dotz dwell
gentlemen if you will tarry while I
go look
I am sure my name is in the Queen
s books E

Wit

I pretty come of tell me the name to reading

Edenes

Edenes
fairy if you will needed know my name is

Wit

Marry fie me the know sword out the scrimpany

Edenes

what because I spoke in jest will you take it so angerly
for my name is knight mistaken
I let you well to wit
the one is not in all the world
scrimpanion for you pure fitt

Wit

And if the name be knight mistaken
I am as ashamed as any in this land

Edenes

yea marry is it

Wit

why then give me the hand

Edenes

For fairy I think you are as tame
as a fantoll fairy
and the one face I will bring you acquainted
with a fantollwoman called maist merie

Wit

yea mary wt all my hart & god hand mary to

Edenes

wch tyen come a way come lett vb god

Gow god be Gware

wantons

what matter Gome ft retreation ft ware

yon Gromes ward

Edenes

Hay ft gray you come Hetger come ft

ware yd

wantons

ft come

Edenes

Hay but in any wise Hide yd bally

wantons

St ib atgide oft yd getting

Edenes

ft it Hurt fatger at large but Gow

come in with tyat ib like to bear

all tye tyarge

grantellmen Gow ib tyd grantellewine

kiss Gor ft ay ft am a Gorson ob.

ft ft Gow knewed you wold not

a kist Gor

ft wold Gund kist Gor my Bele

wit

Gentlewoman teib shalbe to desier you
of more acquaintance

wantonnes

Sir a ought i may presume you i will giue
a condicio to gaue nanoy subscribe my
lot dooth be shall but yet me thinke
i byd you best of all

idlenes

yea sho might gaue gad manoy
mon of knaues and of shotts

Wontanes

right shist thou

idlnes

many you might gaue gad many mon
of knaues and wotts but yet
me thinks thou canot be a marry wit
thou be twin brothes most minty
and you master wito

Wontanes

that is not sayd

Valines

yea and that will be ready ranage
to the [redacted] ioye

Prentanes

what sayest thou
[redacted] Edelins

that will be a shorte marriage i gesse

Pontones

by my troth sir no but sit down
my legges will not gou ad mor

witt

I am will I sit down and by you if I may
be so bould

Edelins

Hould ib ene sir reuerence tyb gra ib
euen fitt
of ene ib a god Gutz a reuuting ene
full of witt

Wit

I am sure you are running in musick
and therefore if you please sing me a
songe

Wantins

What will I if it were for yo ease

Here shall wantons sing this song to the tune of rolland the gois playe the and hauing hung him a sleepe upon her crappe let him snort then let her set a fooles cable on his hed and calling his face: and Goldens shall steale away his purse from him and goe his wayes /

the song

Lye still & howle not ted
good will lye & rest ted
& in my cap take ted the scroope
sirra Goldens brought ted
& now & hand raught ted
& charge ted let take away scroope
& now ted & shroope full soundly
now purpose & roundly
twirle this gooty noddy
& make him a noddy
& make him a noddy
Sirra ted not unstable
& now waxt a bable
sirra Goldens led him away
& away of a stollar
& will make him a rollier
sirra wantons beard ted shaue
well now & hand him ornamented
& mead of aught be wanting
& now must you spare me
for my crosse with cart me / for my ge

Enter god nurture speaking this

Forwhy where my scollard wrt
is now of late betake
& feare least wt il company
he happen for to raue
for y^t bad nurture commonly
among all vnder arm counted
but with by teb Eib straing so
& feare late he remounted
Contrite Eib fatzer sure
ib traue a wise wt all
but yet Eib mo^tgre gangring
will bring Eis shame to trwall

Here he turneth stumbling at wrt
as he sleth a sleep

why Eww. now Eww what wight ib teb
on Eowe. we now Eaue Eit
sone let me se teb shame ib he
he truly teb ib wrt Here he awaketh
what wrt y^t say wrist for shame
o god, where Eust thou bin
teb rumpong made teb a fole
that thou of late wast in

here he riseth rubbing his eyes
and stryning

o vagrant stroumpet that sey was that ran
out in this raye

good nurture

Thay rakes then out must to blame
to be not sure in place

Here he washeth his face and taketh
of the table

Come on sr yor amend this yeare
forward of all temptations
yo ordinary for to refuse
take honest recreation

He delivereth him honest recreation

wit

I traint you in nurture must for
this yo gentleline
will doe yo commandments
found forth truth willingly

good nurture

god grant you may & serve god amongst
upon Earth still Exit

Witt

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I trust you sir wt all my hart
for the good good will
and paines more I intend to make
I think I was a curst
god grant the bend twixt me be
most happy then the first

I hope both goe out

Tertia scena / Enter Edgars

Sister it is an old proverb & a true
I sware by the woods
it is an ill wind that blowes no man to good
when I first brought out
into wantoning Dangering
then thought I it was time for me
to be tempering
the rock is not so fine gone
as the dogs but is in the purpost
writ was not so fine a sleeve
but my hand was in his hose
wantoning is a drab
for the most part is an old rig
but as for me my fingers and as good as twixt
now am I mad afraid like a goosishen
more dear I not pray
I am as ready to say my nay as ever I was
I am as very a maid as the best of you
of all
for now I will call my name Jane
disport set for all should go
so finely I can turn the hatt in the fan

now shall you heare how finely master doctor
can play his out landish man
ah by got me be his doctor
me am his fine knave & tell ye
and have his good medarine for his maidens belly
me have his excellent medicine
for his blaines & blister
ah me am his knave
to give his faire maid his glister
how like you this my masters
his boy have me so many lessons
whereabout to shift away
ah & can find shifts enough to get money

Enter snach and catch

Adieus

But soft a while my masters } lay downe
who have we heare } the purse in
to be our trusty knaves } a corner
therefore list to our toyle

The song that snach and catch singeth together

& Gate his told his told in proverbs old
that shuld ward suffer both hunger & cold
that shuld ward suffer both hunger & cold
and this sing we & this sing we

owe lind by sowse by sowle we maye & toyle
tyrb swarty & rakky dotz keepe a coyle
& tyrb lind we & tyrb lind we
by Barbyn a Batzyn tyrb lind we

we come from sea from sea from many a fray
to pilling & poling every day
to pilling & poling every day
& tyrb skipt we & tyrb skipt we
& over tye Barbyes tyrb skipt we

catch

Yey lindly by tye gutts of a crab lunst snack
tyis is an excellent sowle
now we are come from fleetin to tye Tiger's port
tyere shall not a fat porke
come nodding by tye nose
but sweet & Batz will desire him to stay

snatch

Yea by tye Virgin & Batz
now we walk like tye Turkes
but by tye masse my purse be full
of spanish ritrates
pezza dost tyou not know Edlaind
tyat tomberfait knave

catch

ye by Gt tand I know him well for a knave
tye Batz his purse full of money
if we robd him well

[illegible]

where God be it

Catch

& told the Quatre he stole it from with

Snatch

who told the he dothe it wth reding

Catch

by the hands of albert gudding
tib shee a hand upon hir not hurde
it was told me of wantinde } here they
esspie him

Edens

ah trut prate fye you varlet like a drudge
I pray you be gold my mastre
aman may speke now by the shadow

Snach

o wonderfull fwold he ware hurt

Catch

nay I pray the lett me speke first
master Edlond I am glad to se you
awey Earthly

Edins

I am sure I trust you Earthly
but I feed water I mond ab yo
[illegible]

Inatch

master Edmund how hang you dond in alonge

Edmund

hang rome an hand of yo to gist a gouse of mine

catch

my sir I hope you trust nb bottor
I must nedeb borrow yo ring to stab a cottor

Edmund

by my lound in spite of my teeth
god a mercy hoste
this is text must nedeb be
quote the god man when he made this cuppe
and the bastit gutiouse porpoise
walk my masterb if you will you may
I will tarry you to and old must text
meked preachings wt hoe arse hold yo nose tuse
and if you will you may hand codgob of
mutton stuffe with hoard

catch

this is a crooftid fop but by a hanging take
I hand proud nose to be a good mand sound
I can smell an apgell sbuen mill in a fuge mand
nbi animus ibi oculus where he lonb thou he lobob
hee lucky trost will help to bring me out
of his hen tarpstons bobob

How he shall find the purse

Heere after they have scambled for the money they shall put in the purse and give it him a gaine

Snach

Hold Sonne thou shalt not loose all thy money shall not come home weeping for losse and ab for thy thou shalt be commist to Dauids crosse

Polemus

Ewell gotten worse spent
by thrift thou mayst saue
to get it wt thy dewell
& now it is gone wt his maue

Catch

But stirra stand let him stage
for Ere we may come a nere be
fore we should thinke to take thy money & thy
mindewe Or ere we be broke our necke

Snatch

why we will pull him vp by the
to thy high shall thy
& then let him fall

Catch

nay then I know a better way
we will wind his neck against the

Snatch

note

Thou he tye must he hand ordinis more more
where he cry cust might he stole away a goose
we will take this & tie it to his hed
& shd we will blind him
& stirra he charge you when you hear any
body coming
he he tye ask you any question say you god amming

Here they turne him aboute and bind his hands behinde
him and tye the sheet aboute his face

Fdelis

damning quote you why tedre ran boatswig
worse teden for aman to god ammunged
when he gate no mony in his purse

Catch

well yet we charge you to doe in this
fashion

Snatch

first walk in Fdelis & remember yo lesson

Here they runs one to one corner of the stage
and the other to the the other and speake
like cuntrymen to begile him

Fdelis

14

A sirra in faith yᵗ is ouerbond ꝙ you still
cumming
euen yᵗ same all alone wᵗout steps giue
ye drawing.

Snatch

God day neighbour good day
tib afaird yᵗ aye morning god bb blessd

Catch

ꝙ he gib twold he tonie weltzer
if it were not for tib mist
what tysse followed he all day at breakfast
ꝙ ewin tray make feasts
what hart ꝙ sur ꝙ must revenge you
before you will serue tye beasts
Eow war gode dayens dam he gor
Eund we hoard

Venus

ofor tye passion of god he be we
false thumb Eund rob me of all tyd
mony ꝙ wot tib yᵗ ꝙ here they beate him

Snatch

yea ye rascall ib tyd matter so ye stand
com com we must trey Eid
he sser a gaind

Cath

& virra come you Lyne lourned atwixt for ye nigh
when any body roundly slew you you ye mimmye

§ Adieus § { Exit snatch cat

Mimmye quoth you why tyd getter will not stotell
otyder & rost on my left side to day or & first
on anetthell
Gent ib must tye for when Ee lett a furze
in tye morninge
if wantwit knew tyb fye will never lie
sworninge
tyb slame ib find Burbolds luck
tyes fellowes Lyne guide me a dine slight
now & Lyne never a cross to blesse me
now & goe amming
like a poore penniless spirit
wt out pipe or drumming

Enter wit and stoinst Recreation a
waiting on him

witt

fye fye what kind of life ib tyb
to labour all in vaine
to toil to gett tyt tying tyd wt
my witt cannot attaine
tyd Lourne spirit arondrous long
tyd wt & Lyne to make
to tosse my sheete & shoote my swannes
& all for waspounds sake

O it god knowes what may be fall
O what lorde god will stand
for I se will lord me when I rome
at this my sowing end
this sweet recreation delites me not at all
for when I shend the time with him
I spring my selfe in travell

Edems

but sette what sand we sowe
sand gost or godly spirrit
that romes our sowing for to stur
O we for to affrite

Edems

yea by the mod what are ye coming
in sorte I am a gainless spirit
I god still a coming

Wit

I waingd the to tell me what sort thou
amen ammester a spirit or whet
woldest thou sand

Edems

I am noither man ammstor nor
spirit but a pore gainlis sand

Wit

why how sone ist thy comings I

he stepeth out & saieth

Idlems § Whatty to yor cumming

Wit § yea but what art thou
may not that be knowen

Idlems § why what am I but a knave
when all my mony is gone

Wit § some tell me thy name
I pray the same done

Idlems § Good honest knave
Have ye forgot so soon

Wit § why but will ye not tell me
how thou camest thus almost

Idlems § In faith gentell freend
you ye shold know best

Wit § doe I why thou dost not know me
the wilfull waster

Idlems § yet I know it is otherwise
§ Thatty or Batty
§ But in faith gentell freend
I yor fitt cumming
although it be otherwise
with out hope or dowinge

Here shall wit out of the sheet saying

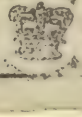
Wit { Hem sayest thou now
ranst thou not back
I pray the tell me
dost thou know me

Folus { o the body of a Dragon
I wold I had thy Eares
in faith I wold stoppe thy
teth beard not so hark this sound yt
why I am so cold
that my teeth trotter in my head
I sure stood how in dayes in night
nor out other meate or bread

Wit { I pray the what is the name
whether dost thou resort

Folus { for sth for fault of a better
ib dare dispute

Wit { dost not the call thy sheep
Count detraction our deceived
me dumb



Holms } why I am a gentleman: if it were I
a kinne shake my bones
I am a greate traueller
I like my tyre dwarfe like a puttock
will take me with a bye
Cut out the brand of my buttock

---

wit } if the wants be your disporte
I wold be acquainted with the
fowle in sporte I delight

Holms } what vnder a rappier of ragoune
a tyre must be worne
but if you will be acquainted
with me ab you say
then must you send thie companion
a way
for you & I must walke alone

---

wit } why then shall away } Exit Holmst
yett you gaue } Recreation

Holms } so now come on with me
to a friende I know of mine
that shall we may be sure sport inough

---

wit } Come on then }

Here Polemus having brought him to
the den of Fricksomnes: shall leave
away and Fricksomnes enter like a
monster and shall beat downe wit
with his Club staffe

Fricksomns { what unto it tyet / no tomb so ample lib gaue } { Here thay fite wit / fales downe }

wit { Lab alab now am I stand

Fricksomns { thy may no force tyou mig post / a further stead / if tyou had staffe / such thy lug drad / tyy back ward to to go } Exit

Fricksomns leaueth him dead on the
staffe

Enter Wisdome and sayeth

of late abrode I gande depart
tyat wit makes many bowde
tyi lady wisdom if he may
to wyfe for to espouse

but it seemeth both wisdom & foolishness 19
will under
stand that hath wit that hath liberty standing
yonder

Heard ye ever the like

what wit be of good regard
Candy I will restrain that

wit { O Lady wisdom so I wold
but foolishness hurts standeth me

wisdom { well yet arise & do as I shall tell
and then I warrant thee
thou shalt do better

wit { I thank you mine & trouble that I
am now must a reward
yet shut so cunning shut my thanks
I am right unwilling reward
You shame so courteous London
wherein I purpose rest
that you dye know the truth
right well
of this our deep distress
my father bad me labour still
so strive favour to obtain
but it beseemed I could you see
full grateful unto him my friend 18

first Holofernes he brought and wo
tegen wantonye stoot in
& cast of all folde stoutehardnes
his yarte he dote begin

---

wisdome { I trinke might well for many abont
hate come to sore distresse
when ab it kept tegat stoutehardnes
hate not tegen in teo way
for I poore wydowe hope can please
among teese braggyd elfes
& he tegat boldeb to win my lond
must venter many liffes
but it I hoard tye greate good will
& hope I promise bye
I his tegen taust stoutehardnes destroy
tey lady I will be
& to teo and tegat may be done
my knight well afford
Hold Hedro yor stedfaste and I sey
a good & cutty sword
& vall for stoutehardnes
& cott him fould tey sweet
be stoute for if he ouer come
he will hand no mercy

---

wit { Why nowdan edward be hold tye might
my hoards not for tey lond
to fight as men & monsters bolt
ab straight I will it prouide

wisdome { well dost so tyme
tyll wyles & will departe

wit { & tyanck you lady wisdome nowe
farewell all my gest } Exit wisdome

wit calleth forth Ferkfoomes

well mett mett mowe gaud at Ferkfoomb
tom fertz tyme monster fore
& eyde yet nowe tyll stowd time
tyll gowde sporte to quoe

Enter Ferkfoomes, saing

wyat wyse is tyat tyat walob mad fertz
wyat art tyou yet athind
if tyat & tatter tyll ouer agayne
tyou spell no more mayd

wit { eaand of tyll bragab & dos tyll worst
tyll words may not gowande at first

Here thay fight a while and
Ferkfoomes must run in a doores and
wit shall followe taking his visor of
his hed and shall bring it in vpon his
sworde saing

& tyll lord betyanked for yis grace
tyis monster is subdued,

& I wil first wash mouing wt we
am now wt ioy returned
ouell wome before I get I wife
dame wisdome Louise reward
I will with my father go
these woods for to seeke } Exit

The second act the iiij scena

Enter Adeims halting wth a stilt and shall
carry a cloth upon a staffe like a rat
catcher & say

Heres you any bath or wise gods bath or
owdabeb.
or hb tyme any old sowle sit of tye yourself
I can destroy fulmerb & rater gold
I Heere rat saine maidenb
to spoil all tye warmid tyat run in yo hole
arattratzer quetz you /
tyib ab astrainge operation
but dozy where fur Adeims
tyez make prettz question
tyez say he stubd hanged for coufining of wit
but tyere ab otherme told Ego sport
tyez hend me out got
I can gue Heed by tyere nosb never be knowñ
like a ratcatzer tore shez be gone

Here he espieth Search coming in and goeth vp
& downe saying Saue you any wate & misse
us in the first fiue lines

Search

How ile a muspling trey would haue a man
doe more trey he ile able
one were better to be hanged
trey to be a constable
& I haue searcht for a hound called Fidlam
but I cannot find him for all my busines
trey hound trey saye haue vanished out
& send him on trey selfe

Fidlam { yea if you take not heede
he will get me to vanish vp sleeue

Search { what dost trey know him good fellow
& pray trey now tell

Fidlam { doe I know why I tell trey
I haue Watchword to sell

Search { Watchword but a ponite
dost trey know Fidlam tell me

Fidlam { why I tell trey I know him
as well as he knowes me
I wonder he be a stalle man
& I trow he trusts

A Ee be not a found fowld Ee find
a pound of Gatsbaine in Eis gute

Search yea but wheare ib Ee cane tgou tell

Adams No fuite not well

Search yea but my thinke tgie art lame

Adams yea you may see fure Cirk
Hand tgay wil do game
& gaue him at ye quintins
wheare & wab tmisb bild
& gaue him at Mustleborow
at tge Gottisb fould
& gaue him in tge land of gredne ginger
A mine a wheare
wheare & gaue him fot tgrouge
bote tge buttocke
A vil Hargrabuzers
but mon & am bld
A gaue nought my bele to defend
A mon fame to be a Gutegzer
to mine end

Heere shall Search take out a peece
of paper and looke on it

Search but spell & giue tge
to wid a proclimation

Edeins { for fault of stroo pots of board
I will rid it after the best fashion

Here shall Search reach a chare and Edeins shall goe vp and make the proclamation

Search { Come gett vp board you must say
as I say

Edeins { How can you say I am a knaue
then must I needs say nay

Search { first rid yeth a good while

Edeins { very well { He cries to long

Search { thought mought what I
then ouer found

Edeins { what didst not thy bad me rid long
I hand not started begune

Search { Go to rid further on a adungaund

Edeins { Yeth yeth yeth yeth { very often

Search { what I think then art mad

Edeins { why would you not hand me down
as you found

Search { why must thou keepe no measure

Edleins { Yes { Here he shall cry well

Search { that is very well said.

Edleins { that is verry well said.

Search { what hast wine thou hast drunk to day

Edleins { why did you not bid me say as you did say

Search { some say our the kings most royall maiestie

Edleins { he is king and a loyall to lye not Wrongfully

Search { why what said he { Edleins { why so

Search { he say the kings most Royall magistie

Edleins { the kings most Loyall magistie

Search { doth trouble you all the land people

Edleins { what it is not so { Search { what

Edleins { why you say thou wert drunk drunke flew over a people

Search { he say doth trouble all the land people

Schems { I do the charge all the true you be that it a notre matter

Search { that they watch elsewhere else in the toward

Schems { that every matter that a man would or his true hurt be a traume

Search { why what meaneth that it shake no sure word that that watch elsewhere and be in any towne

Schems { that they watch the

Search { is that Schemb by any meane they can find

Schems { no many you shy not true

Search { what it that

Schems { it it not for Schemb that men shud stands in the wind

Search { is that Schems by any meane they can find { put him downe

Schems { is that Schems

Search { Come down wth a pestilence
and the

Edwins { Come ye good tyranke my mistres
and give me my sword

Search { Come give me yt sword
& I will give the viij wounds

Now shall Search runne away wth his
sword and he shall cast away his
shield and run after him.

The fifte Scena { Enter Francis

Like ab the rowling stone wch
doth alwaies gather moss
& gold wth other metall mixt
must needes be full of dross
so libertie & wt commonly
doth fancy find to mend
amongst the rest am I tried mine
& suffer middle blame
because that waving Edward and those
& alwaies stedfast stand
wherby the depth of learnings lore
& cannot understand
but wit perhaps will me in bring
ab & will after the matter
for which & meane to counterfait
& strictly for to flatter

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And boy I am a messinger
from lady wisdome sent
to se if that will be amand
to bring him to my hant
but se where he doth stand

Enter Wit

Wit Like as the silly Inuasion
amidst the waing sea
doth seme the top of mightie mast
full oft both night and day
but yet at last when happily
he tourned from his to home
he sailed alonne as first
as erst he did before
so likewise I my hand shall stap to
the bounty as I hand have done
am now as first to venter now
as when I first began
a new adventure trie I shall
not fearing wind my ward
but who is this where I behold
for to appeare in place

Fancy God saue you gentell mā wit
and send you good success

Wit faire damne I thank you hartly
o wish in you welfare
what may me be bold to aske
your name my out offcast

fancy { yea sir my good will to get you may
& the my whole pretence
my name is fancy and the cause
of this my coming even
from lady wishfond is to bring
a message unto you

wit { even so and ye welcome unto and
for lady wishfonds sake

fancy { here is the letter and she bid
me unto you to take

Here he receiveth the letter and
readeth it to himself

wit { my ladyes will herein is this
that you should go with me
unto apleard why for to recitate
all here she doth intend

fancy { even so good sir even when you will
I dare the same allow
give you before in at the door
& I will follow you

Here wit going in one shall pull him by the
arme whereupon he shall cry on this
manner

wit { alas I am betrayed
this night murder me assist

Fancy { Why now my sweete sir
& I charge you kindly
now wit is that you list
to master this pleasant age and
then shall be found ab one that was
& now returned be

Wit { Sweete sir I am not so
Sans wisdome take my Quest

Fancy { Then shalt thou ere time still
& with mentor thou shalt the smart

Exeunt

The vi Scena { Enter Folenis

Sir it is aword to the Lord fortune reamyste
this shrewd sir knit me like me reamyste
& reamyste
for the sondar of arthshadd
this age wold make me sware madly
grind me and pray or a halfpeny
for a poore dream that gets God
great cost by sleep
& it is great misery
that sound my good master & my good friend
& all the Household
& pray you be stond yt almost of a grave man

nye starued wt to doe
now I am a bould beggar
I tell you the stoutest of all my kin
for if nobody will turne out
I will be so bolde to goe in
byrlady I weis nobody within
but the cat by the fier side
I must needes go in what soeuer
come of it I cannot abide

He goeth on and bringeth out the porridge pot a bout his neck

A sirra my masters yon shift yon Dodge
what art thou Euripid vilt thou
out my dodge
now I remember for a doutie youth
this bribbed good in deed
well faire a good ende of pottage
when the hornings do stand
a beggar quoth you this youth begunne
to fadge
I I made I be a gentleman
the pottage pot spilde my badge
now I am in that taken I dare
not shewe my hed
Alas rosinus of wit
I am faine to beg my bred
well my masters fare you well

it may perhaps turne a boy
if the good wyfe come forth
& take the pottage out a doore my worke

The vij scena { Enter doll and lob

Doll { & the passion of god so it shalbe swinged
so my bones shalbe sore
the porredge got is stolne what lob it so
come a wade & he gange
whate lob it say come a way thy a fould drill

Lob { what a lobbing makest thou
wt a twenty deuill

Doll { thou hast kept a gaudy rule
thou wotest how hulling doth
thou keepst a tumbling house
in the barne took the porredge got in thou

Lob { why thou tumblest downe the pease
& wad almost beard
may it will tell my dame
how thou woldst undo lob for my reward

Doll { thou kyest whor sonne thou wilt
be trudged so thou wilt

Lob { my good doll say the the porridge
were all spilt

Heer entreth mother bee wth a stick in her hand

Mother bee
what wilbone be trust whore troth
I promis you you kooped a goodly toyle
I warrd the Cuge I stoke Cosnob nost
I moild & toyld
I cninke be to god gentlewoman
betwixt that & I found
when I rounde in to bowerbsprt
all the potage ib gone
I pray ye mistrib wilbone ib the potage
pot ib that lyd away

Doll
whilost lob wab kissing me in the bame
a knaue stole it away

Mother bee
yee gode borob and ran starte go to pissing
but my mean & my meing
dod straigst fall to kissing

Here she beateth them vp and downe the stage.

and you kissing what my mean lob
ib be tolde a rolly ruffeor
you and kissing you I must be faine
to be a sumpseor

BRITISH

Lob

Ho dame, dame ist you will beate me no more
I will tell you a tale
when I was at the towne
and tolde you when

Mother Be { a whyrstone thou talleste me
when thy mast
thou art a knaue ist men I trow

Lob { why Doll will not ende my boote
how wold you haue me yet

Doll { Go lyob dame Go lyob Go boorde it
with a plowing nor harrowing
for it is not so soone mended
but Go boorde it out with furring

Enter Inquisition bringing in Alens with
the pottage pot about his neck

Mother Be { Oh who haue we heere
I am ab glad
ab one wold giue me a pounde
what haue I spied by lady my
porredge pot is round to towne

Inquisition { what is this yo pottage pot
doe you know it ist you
I be it

Mother Be { whether it be mine or no
he had it from me for sure
he cannot deny it } Exit Mother Be

Ob { O dame dame so swift your sin is
it had my wife
sirra dul we will attach him of felony

Felons { Let me alone I will talk you
who stole yo[u] eggs
and whither we stole yo[u]
take my tyd yellow eggs

Indictition { well we will send him to a sessions
dispatch round a wager

Ob { you & Colt him be upright
or I durand aye towne
not murder day } go out all

The 6ijj Scena Enter good gusture

To them with Hob shoulders the supposed
the wizard of tender youth
and groose fulb or an other nest
& youth with hand fob mot
him first he gand to meature wit
full many words hasty past

but w Eow Ee Eud staind Frok ſyrnind
ſt tzyngſt me bide at leſt
but now ſt ſe tze wzy dwd
of tzat my cate diſtreſſe
is abegoing vnto gneſe
wz wilbe nothing leſſe
for whē ſt tzyngſt tzat wzit of cate
to wiſonds Eouſe Eud gone
Ee tawe not tzow but god knowe whord
tzid wattz leſſe wilt ab rew
we knowe ſt whow to ſpeke agin now
whowebz ſ coarne tz gaine
tzow it we gnoſe ſo fard gone paſt
but may retwrne a gnine

ſtzr zoit coyeth out in pzyſon and ſayeth thus

---

tze ſlly bird owt tangſt in net
ifs tze aſtaid alive
with rwnd w mead ſ my tze ſwrd
Eow ſwddoine to deſtroie
but watzer ſza with Eowe Eow Eunt
tze wz tze deſtod beſtzd
but Kalab whow ſtood ab ſtolne
doo Eunt tze ſtable dozz
for being often tangſt beſtzd
yet tould ſ not refraine

mine foolish tyen tye withib birds
I wand to hand against
alab tye tyemes oppresse me sore
wherewth I mow and lud
but yet tye grund doty giue me more
wherein my hart ib glad
o mighti hand mow grant
tydt hand of god mem may gesse tyis glass
by wh[illegible] god Esdra I might be brought
out of tyis wofull case

good Mistrise

wert maye ib tyis what getions plaint
and sunday in my sard
my hart doty grue me it ib wit
tye wt I mow do heard
I will praise now w[illegible] the comuth
what wrigt art tyou
wh[illegible] dost lamont
o tyeb dost grue in grand

Wt my mand ib witt
my conscie ib greate
how stand I tyen wofrand

good Mistrise

what wit how canst thou know
o god what trauma is this

wit { hand fancy brought me in this case
& know I did amiss

good Nurture { what fancy weare is he
& that I and might take her

wit { wold god you could or else send me
that able award to make peace
but I'se in sooth I had
that standing at the door
then he wt all her folk that fed
will be send no more
but I good sould be hed in thrall

Here entreth and reuiseth him
good Nurture

and more I find needest ted of thy counsel

wit { yt most auncient Stgallard
bring to you immortall thanks

good Nurture { I gesse you now take better heed
you play no more but promised
plucke up yr spirits yo mariage day
it could undo

to morrow without fayll you and
I fayll contented be I let you understand

Wit } wight so ab you truist your
I fayll contented be

good nurture } tyen let ab your for to prepare
tome and I pay my mit } Exeunt

Enter Adems like a preist

Iustice my master tyme ib mucy adoe
abyen fortune ib lowring
o tye gracious ys god Iqand astayed aying
Iore Iolly sun Iqand I spird
tyis goore ib not fit
in suits I qand lye in tye lawe
for robbing of mult
more fayll he be mazed in all tye Iaste
wayen wit a wisdome ib ioyned to gatyer
tyen I am retorted
well it I can fist ab wyne
I long ab I am not detorted
I stayed I cannot walke
I am of tyat condition
tyat I tyink turne into all
toullorb like tye commission
altyoughst I and god refuse and
I and Eden looked
lubbor will not refraid mud

Exit

The x Scena } Enter Seueritie
and wit

Seueritie } well now bonne with
the gnashe ib glume
the cloudds more more so blurk
but the brightnes of the sonne
at last mugst gut thru bark
the mend did mider blo nas so murg
nolens volens wtz the burke ward sone
but that the water prob so talud
to bring the sunne to schine
the danger nbow ib ouse
adrosse the sacke wt speede
to make no winsome the dooro wyde
ab we bessne doomede

wit } Ha scalbe come ab dubie bindb
ab he bindon stand
but be good fatter nbo behold
sunne wisdome ib at hand

Entura good nurture & wisdome
and wisdome and wit singeth
this song

Wisdome

My hope Lady undertaken my
my cause ab just
for fortune Lady bin my
wele at last
tantara tara tantara
my husband ab art kind
Eib tenly grape approach in glass
ab ft dat understand

Wit { My lady tryst resolve to me
mind onely joy
tyr contesting god grind at tyr
wy art annoy
tantara tara tantara
welcome my worthy wyfe
tyou art my porte tryne ib my heart
my blessed thin oft list

---

wisdom { Ab gutid duty kind accord my to kind
ft tryinke yt mute
tyr wife thirty will stand for eyes
tyr will not grute
tantara tara tantara
tyt shame of all my bliss
tyr welcomest wight my pooft delight
tyat stable tyat ib

wit { Let me tyll thy mastership wherein
thine wisdome must

wisdome { good wit I alwaies loued thy plaie
to be with you
tantara tara tantara
tyll Ernest my Ernest in Hell

wit { so god I saie but tell thy plaine
I am thy friend be bold

here entreth the Iong

good nurture { well now I am right glad
to see you both well met

Seuerite { and so am I with all my hart
tyll tyme I shall see not

both { we thanke you both right humblie

wit { O wise to many goodlie

wisdome { for why all thyngs thy turned long
awaie quarted from her mate

wit { now god betwixt thy and met
in thine Iuggs pratie
thy Lord be thanked for his grace
with thine wolde nothyng in hande or worke
were vnbecomming can be

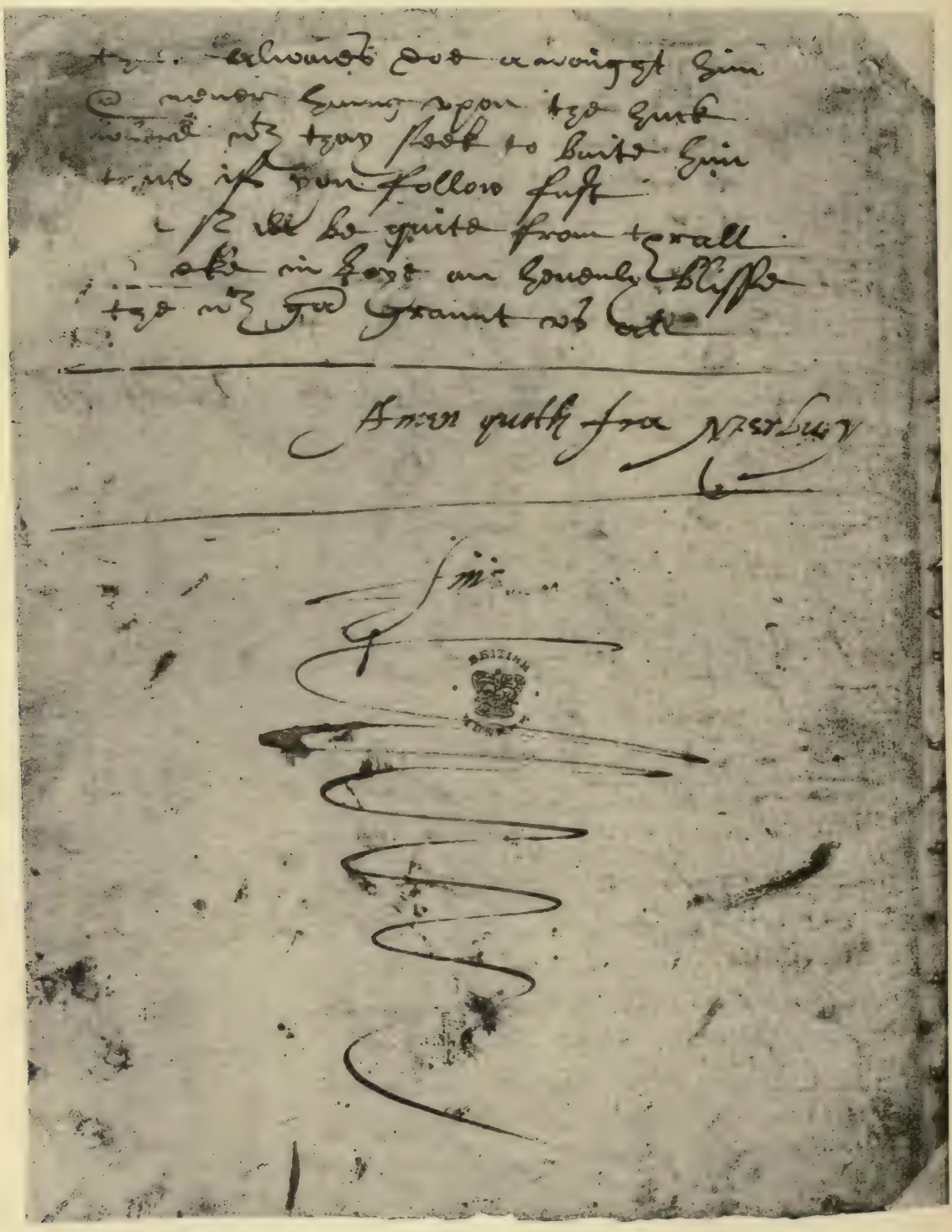
Dispute } and you to me dear wife

Severitie } and now the time requires
that we departe away
to celebrate the nuptiales
with this day this wedding day

Nut } God you before my father down
God master straight
then but I will bound to
upon you will await } go forth Ah

Enter Epilogus

Epi Good you sound good audience
Give the ears of youth
who so list to try the same
shall find it for a truth
in this simple stead
But Epilogus for to bolt
Yo[u] pardon yo[u] patience
we crave in our default
for though the field be wide
Epilogus must speak
yet may you say upon the bold
the way would is git
wherefore the mould marke
for shrub but it passe
not may would wearied
then use it for a glasse
wherein for to shew his head



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